

Message Text

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ORIGIN EPA-04

INFO OCT-01 EA-12 ISO-00 OES-07 SS-15 EB-08 CIAE-00
INR-07 NSAE-00 L-03 /057 R

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EA/J - MR. CHRISTENSON
-----116212 201953Z /65
R 200403Z AUG 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SENV, JA

SUBJECT: AT-SEA INCINERATION

REF: TOKYO 08955

AT PRESENT U.S. HAS NO PLANS TO CONDUCT AT-SEA
INCINERATION TEST OPERATIONS FOR PCB'S. EXTENT OF US
CONTACT WITH JAPANESE ON SUBJECT CONSISTS OF INFORMAL
EXCHANGE OF CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN EPA SCIENTIST PAUL
DES ROSIERS AND JAPANESE MINISTRY OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE
AND INDUSTRY. DES ROSIERS WROTE MINISTRY TO REQUEST
INFORMATION FOR AN INVENTORY HE IS PREPARING ON PCB-
CONTAINING CAPACITORS AND TRANSFORMERS IN SERVICE AS WELL
AS THOSE NOL IN STORAGE IN THE US, JAPAN AND WESTERN EUROPE.
SUCH DATA COULD EVENTUALLY HELP TO READILY IDENTIFY MATERIAL
THAT COULD BE USED IN TEST BURNS OF PCB'S AND TO DETERMINE
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IF SUFFICIENT QUANTITIES OF CAPACITORS AND TRANSFORMERS ARE
AVAILABLE AT SUITABLE LOCATIONS TO JUSTIFY AT-SEA INCINERA-
TION. DES ROSIERS ALSO DISCUSSED THIS CONCEPT WITH A
MR. SAITO OF JETRO TRADE CENTER IN NEW YORK.

IT IS UNCLEAR WHAT JAPANESE INTENTIONS ARE WITH RESPECT
TO PCB DISPOSAL AND POSSIBLE USE OF DUTCH INCINERATION SHIP

VULCANUS. US HAS HAD SOME EXPERIENCE WITH AT-SEA
INCINERATION OF ORGANOHALOGENS IN GENERAL AND IS PRESENTLY

ENGAGED IN OCEAN INCINERATION OPERATION ABOARD VULCANUS
FOR DISPOSAL OF HERBICIDE ORANGE STORED ON JOHNSTON
ATOLL IN PACIFIC. US HAS NEVER OCEAN INCINERATED PCB'S.

NO COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT TO EITHER STUDY OR CONDUCT
A PCB OCEAN INCINERATION OPERATION EXISTS OR IS ANTI-
CIPATED IN THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE BETWEEN THE US AND JAPAN.
THIS IS NOT TO SAY THAT US IS ADVERSE TO SUCH A DEVELOP-
MENT, BUT RATHER REFLECTS THE VERY LIMITED NATURE OF
OUR CONTACTS WITH THE JAPANESE ON THIS MATTER. WE
ANTICIPATE THAT INFORMAL EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION WILL
CONTINUE, AND EXPECT THAT IF EITHER SIDE WISHES TO
CONSIDER ANYTHING MORE ELABORATE IT WILL BE PURSUED
THROUGH THE PROPER CHANNELS, NAMELY DEPT OF STATE AND
EPA OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL ACTIIDVITIES. VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: LAW, FOOD & DRUG REGULATIONS, TOXINS & ANTITOXINS, CHEMICALS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 20-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE198941
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: 106:ASIELEN:RW
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770301-1227
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770840/aaaabhog.tel
Line Count: 80
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 1db48457-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN EPA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 TOKYO 8955
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1538174
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: AT-SEA INCINERATION
TAGS: SENV, ECEM, JA, US
To: TOKYO
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/1db48457-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009